United Nations A/68/96

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 June 2013
English
Original: Arabic/English

Sixty-eighth session
Item 99 (b) of the preliminary list*
General and complete disarmament

Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof

Report of the Secretary-General

Contents

		Page
I.	Introduction	2
II.	Information received from Governments	2

* A/68/50.

13-37103 (E) 250613 250613

Please recycle

I. Introduction

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/116 O of 15 December 1989, entitled "Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof", the relevant paragraphs of which read as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "8. Also requests the Secretary-General to report by 1992, and every three years thereafter until the fourth Review Conference is convened, on technological developments relevant to the Treaty and to the verification of compliance with the Treaty, including dual-purpose technologies for peaceful and specified military ends; in carrying out this task he should draw from official sources and from contributions by States parties to the Treaty and may use the assistance of appropriate expertise;
>
> "9. Urges all States parties to the Treaty to assist the Secretary-General accordingly by providing information and drawing his attention to suitable sources".

2. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 9 of the resolution, a note verbale was sent to the States parties to the Treaty inviting them to provide information on the subject. Replies have been received from Oman and Qatar and are reproduced in section II below. Additional replies received from States parties will be issued as addenda to the present report.

3. The Secretary-General wishes to point out that the information submitted to him by States parties to the Treaty does not provide sufficient official material for him to report on the subject matter on the basis indicated in paragraph 8 of the resolution.

II. Information received from Governments

Oman

[Original: Arabic]
[23 May 2013]

The Permanent Mission of Oman is pleased to inform the Office for Disarmament Affairs that the Government of Oman is committed to implementing all the provisions of the treaties and conventions to which it has acceded in relation to nuclear weapons and their testing, as well as all the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in that regard.

Qatar

[Original: Arabic]
[29 May 2013]

Qatar supports the content and objectives of the Treaty as a means to preserve international peace and security and prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Qatar believes that commitment to the Treaty would be strengthened by the establishment of zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, leading to total disarmament in respect of such weapons. The establishment of such a zone in the Middle East would have a considerable effect in upholding the Treaty and its credibility, as there would then be no weapons requiring emplacement, whether on land, on the seabed or on the ocean floor.